

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The listing of claims below replaces all prior versions of claims in the application.

1. (Original): A dummy terminal designed to be inserted into a connector-terminal socket originally intended to insertingly receive a connector terminal attached to an end of a signal transmission cable, comprising:

a dummy terminal body adapted to be inserted into said connector-terminal socket;

dummy-terminal engagement means mounted on said dummy terminal body and adapted to be engaged with a connector-terminal latching portion formed in said connector-terminal socket; and

dummy-terminal lock means including a lock member which is mounted on said dummy terminal body and adapted to allow said dummy terminal body after being inserted into said connector-terminal socket, to be locked in its engaged state through said dummy-terminal engagement means.

2. (Original): The dummy terminal as defined in claim 1, wherein said dummy-terminal engagement means includes a flexible engagement member having an engagement portion adapted to be engaged with said connector-terminal latching portion.

3. (Previously presented): The dummy terminal as defined in claim 1, wherein said dummy-terminal lock means further includes:

a screw hole formed in said dummy terminal body; and

a set screw threadingly engageable with said screw hole in a detachable manner, said set screw being adapted to be tightened so as to allow said dummy terminal body to be locked in said engaged state, and to be loosened so as to allow said dummy terminal body to be released from said lock-in state.

4. (Previously presented): The dummy terminal as defined in claim 1, wherein said lock member of said dummy-terminal lock means is swingably mounted on said dummy terminal body.

5. (Original): A dummy terminal designed to be inserted into a connector-terminal socket originally intended to insertingly receive a connector terminal attached to an end of a signal transmission cable, comprising:

a dummy terminal body adapted to be inserted into said connector-terminal socket, said dummy terminal body having a base, an upstanding segment extending upward from said base, an engagement segment which extends approximately parallel to said base, and has a distal end formed as an engagement portion adapted to be engaged with and latched by a connector-terminal latching portion formed in said connector-terminal socket and a proximal end connected to said upstanding segment; and

dummy-terminal release means for releasing a latched state of said dummy terminal body after being inserted into said connector-terminal socket.

6. (Original): The dummy terminal as defined in claim 5, wherein said dummy-terminal release means includes:

a screw hole formed in said dummy terminal body; and

a set screw threadingly engageable with said screw hole in a detachable manner, said set screw being adapted to be loosened so as to allow said dummy terminal body to be placed in said latched state, and to be tightened so as to allow said dummy terminal body to be released from said latched state.

7. (Original): A dummy terminal designed to be inserted into a connector-terminal socket originally intended to insertingly receive a connector terminal attached to an end of a signal transmission cable, comprising:

a dummy terminal body adapted to be inserted into said connector-terminal socket, said dummy terminal body having a base, an upstanding segment extending upward from said base, an engagement segment which extends approximately parallel to said base, and has a distal end formed as an engagement portion adapted to be engaged with a connector-terminal latching portion formed in said connector-terminal socket and a proximal end connected to said upstanding segment; and

dummy-terminal lock means mounted on said dummy terminal body and adapted to allow said dummy-terminal body after being inserted into said connector-terminal socket, to be locked in its engaged state through said engagement portion.

8. (Original): The dummy terminal as defined in claim 7, wherein said dummy-terminal lock means includes:

a screw hole formed in said dummy terminal body; and

a set screw threadingly engageable with said screw hole in a detachable manner, said set screw being adapted to be tightened so as to allow said dummy terminal body to be locked in said engaged state, and to be loosened so as to allow said dummy terminal body to be released from said lock-in state.

9. (Currently Amended): The dummy terminal as defined in claim 1, which includes ~~discrimination~~ differentiation means for ~~discriminating~~ differentiating between a plurality of connector-terminal socket.

10. (Currently Amended): The dummy terminal as defined in claim 9, wherein said ~~discrimination~~ differentiation means includes at least one selected from the group consisting of a color sticker, a special screw and a coloring material.